

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03347 231839 Z

50

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AGR-20 IO-12 SR-02 ORM-03 IGA-02

AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SAL-01 SS-14

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 TRSE-00 RSR-01 L-03 H-02

PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 SIL-01 LAB-06 /176 W

----- 004574

R 231725 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3341

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3347

PASS AGRICULTURE

E. O. 11652 : N/ A

TAGS: EAGR, IN

SUBJECT: WEEKLY FOODGRAIN SITUATION

REFS: A. NEW DELHI 3080 B. NEW DELHI 3195 C. BOMBAY 609

BEGIN SUMMARY: THERE WERE NO MAJOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN FOODGRAIN
SITUATION DURING PAST WEEK. GOI CONTINUES ITS EFFORTS REMOVE
TOXIC FOREIGN MATERIAL FROM IMPORTED MILO BEFORE DISTRIBUTION.
IN PARLIAMENT
AND ELSEWHERE DEBATE CONTINUES BOTH ON MILO/
JIMSON SEED EPISODE AND GOI' S DECISION TO TAKE OVER WHOLESALE
TRADE OF WHEAT AND RICE. END SUMMARY.

1. NEW ARRIVALS OF MILO FROM BOTH US AND ARGENTINA CONTINUE
SHOW PRESENCE OF SMALL QUANTITIES OF JIMSON SEED. MINISTER OF
AGRICULTURE IS FULLY COMMITTED TO REMOVE ALL JIMSON SEED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 03347 231839 Z

BEFORE DISTRIBUTION OF MILO TO CONSUMERS. THIS IS SERIOUSLY DELAYING ITS DISTRIBUTION TO FOOD DEFICIT AREAS AND CONSIDERABLY AUGMENTING THE UNIT COST OF MILO APPROVED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION. RECENTLY IMPORTED WHEAT HAS BEEN FOUND TO CONTAIN ERGOT. MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM IS NOT YET DETERMINED, AND THIS WHEAT IS NOT BEING DISTRIBUTED. GOI SPOKESMEN HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT IN NOT RPT NOT MAKING ALLEGATIONS AGAINST EITHER USG OR US TRADES IN MILO/ JIMSON SEED PROBLEM.

2. RESPONDING TO A CALL BY THE FEDERATION OF ALL- INDIA FOODGRAIN DEALERS' ASSOCIATIONS, GRAIN DEALERS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY OBSERVED ONE DAY STRIKE ON MARCH 21 TO PROTEST GOI' S DECISION TO TAKE OVER WHOLESALE GRAIN TRADE. GOI AND STATE GOVERNMENTS ARE MOVING AHEAD WITH TAKEOVER PLAN. WHILE MAHARASHTRA, MADHYA PRADESH, AND BIHAR HAD ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR FORMAL TAKE OVER OF WHOLESALE WHEAT TRADE EARLIER, UTTAR PRADESH AND GUJARAT ANNOUNCED THEIR DECISION TO TAKE OVER WHOLESALE WHEAT TRADE FROM APRIL 1 AND 5 RESPECTIVELY. IN GUJARAT, ALL DEALERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN LICENSE TO DEAL IN WHEAT. DEALERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO BUY NOT MORE THAN TEN QUINTALS AT A TIME AND TO KEEP STOCK OF NOT MORE THAN 50 QUINTALS. THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO SELL NOT MORE THAN ONE QUINTAL AT A TIME TO ONE CONSUMER. NO DETAILS OF UTTAR PRADESH PLAN ARE YET AVAILABLE.

3. PUNJAB STATE AGRICULTURE MINISTER RATTAN SINGH TOLD EMBOFF THAT THIS YEAR' S WHEAT CROP IN PUNJAB IS AFFECTED BY RUST ON A MUCH LARGER SCALE THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT ANTICIPATE SERIOUS DAMAGE TO YIELDS AS RUST ATTACK CAME LATE IN GROWING SEASON WHEN PLANTS HAD REACHED FAIRLY ADVANCED STAGE OF MATURITY. CROP WILL BE HARVESTED IN ANOTHER TWO TO FOUR WEEKS. HE ANTICIPATED PUMJAB WILL ACHIEVE THIS YEAR' S WHEAT PRODUCTION GOAL OF 5.8 MILLION TONS -200,000 TONS MORE THAN LAST YEAR. HE EXPECTS PUNJAB WILL CONTRIBUTE 3.5 MILLION TONS OF WHEAT TO CENTRAL POOL FROM 1973 HARVEST
E E E E E E E

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NEWDE03347
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730334/aaaaibvy.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 NEW DELHI 3080, 73 NEW DELHI 319
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 02 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Aug-2001 by maustmc>; APPROVED <15-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971217
Subject: WEEKLY FOODGRAIN SITUATION
TAGS: EAGR, IN
To: BOMBAY
CALCUTTA
ISLAMABAD
LONDON
MADRAS
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005